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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,988	03/31/2004	Akira Katsumata	UNION 113	5999
7590 06/01/2005			EXAMINER	
RABIN & BERDO, P.C. Suite 500 1101 14th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005			LE, THANH TAM T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/812,988

Applicant(s)

KATSUMATA ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh-Tam T. Le

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claims 1-10 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 14, claim 2, line 2, claim 3, line 2, claim 4, line 3, claim 5, line 6, and claim 7, line 2, "a pair of the holding portions" should be -- the pair of holding portions --;

Claim 1, line 20, "the outer surface" lacks an antecedent basis;

Claim 4, line 4, "the insertion direction" lacks an antecedent basis;

Claim 7, line 2 and claim 8, line 2, "an insulative coating film" should be -- the insulative coating film --;

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simmons et al. (5,339,222) in view of Hirai et al. (6,417,444).

Regarding claims 1 and 7-9, Simmons et al., figures 1-3, disclose an adapter for a memory card, comprising:

- a frame metal (16) fitting to which an end portion of the memory card is inserted; and

- a core (14) formed with a resin molded body;

wherein an entire thickness of the adapter is approximately same as a thickness of the memory card, wherein the frame having a pair of approximately C shaped holding portions (50), a hook portion (56) provided between the pair of holding portions, and a caulking projection (56 of another side).

Simmons et al. disclose the instant claimed invention as described above except for an insulative coating film is formed on an outer surface of the frame.

Hirai et al., disclose a CF card casing structure disclose a cover plate (3) having an insulating film applied to an inner surface (column 4, lines 55-61). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Simmons et al. to have an insulating film, as taught by Hirai et al., in order to protect the metal cover.

Regarding claim 2, Simmons et al., figure 6, a centering boss portion (46) is formed in at least one of the holding portions.

Regarding claim 3, Simmons et al., figure 6, the pair of holding portions having an opening prevention piece (70).

Regarding claim 4, Simmons et al., end surfaces of the holding portions are cut diagonally to an insertion direction.


Regarding claim 5, Simmons et al., figure 6, a notch portion (46) is formed in at least one of the pair of the holding portions.

Regarding claim 6, Simmons et al. figure 2, a displacement control portion (58).

Regarding claim 10, Simmons et al. disclose the instant claimed invention as described above except for the memory card is MS-MMC, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Simmons et al. to have the memory card is MS-MMC, in order to have the same purpose.

### ***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2094. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.
5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Thanh-Tam T. Le  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2839